AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the present application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remains under examination in the application are presented below. The claims are presented in ascending order and each includes one status identifier. Those claims not cancelled or withdrawn but amended by the current amendment utilize the following notations for amendment: (1) deleted matter is shown by strikethrough for six or more characters and double brackets for five or less characters; and (2) added matter is shown by underlining.

1. (Currently Amended) A valve comprising:

a support element including a longitudinally extending flow path, at least a portion of the flow path extending along an axis of fluid flow;

a flexible element having an open state wherein the flow path is open, the flexible element deformable to a closed state wherein the flexible element interrupts the flow path to at least partially restrict fluid flow through the flow path; and

the support element passing through an actuating element, the actuating element having a position wherein the flexible element is at the open state, and the actuating element movable along the axis of fluid flow to another position wherein the actuating element deforms the flexible element to the closed state.

2. (Original) The valve of claim 1, further comprising a biasing element to bias the actuating element towards said another position.

3. (Original) The valve of claim 1, further comprising a generally cylindrical housing to encase the support element, the flexible element, and the actuating element, the cylindrical housing having an axis substantially concentric with the axis of fluid flow.

4. (Currently Amended) A valve comprising:

means for providing a longitudinally extending flow path, at least a portion of the flow path extending along an axis of fluid flow;

means for interrupting the flow path, the means for interrupting having an open state wherein the flow path is open, the means for interrupting deformable radially inward to a closed state wherein the means for interrupting interrupts the flow path to at least partially restrict fluid flow through the flow path; and

means for deforming, the means for deforming having a position wherein the means for interrupting is at the open state, the means for deforming movable along the axis of fluid flow to another position wherein the means for deforming deforms the means for interrupting to the closed state.

5. (Original) The valve of claim 4, further comprising means for biasing the means for deforming towards said another position.

6. (Original) The valve of claim 4, further comprising means for housing the means for interrupting, the means for deforming, and the means providing a longitudinally extending flow path.

Claims 7-24 (Cancelled).

25. (Currently Amended) A valve comprising:

a support element including a longitudinally extending flow path, at least a portion of the flow path extending along an axis of fluid flow;

a flexible element having an open state wherein the flow path is open, the flexible element deformable to a closed state wherein the flexible element interrupts the flow path to at least partially restrict fluid flow through the flow path;

the support element passing through an actuating element, the actuating element having a position wherein the flexible element is at the open state, and the actuating element movable along the axis of fluid flow to another position wherein the actuating element deforms the flexible element radially inward to the closed state; and

a coupling mechanism coupling the actuating element with the flexible element, the coupling mechanism ~~to allow~~causing the actuating element to deform the flexible element from the closed state to the open state when fluid pressure within the flow path is less than a pressure outside the flow path.

26. (Original) The valve of claim 25, the coupling mechanism comprising a pin, the pin coupled with a first mating aperture in the flexible element and further coupled with a second mating aperture in the actuating element.

27. (Original) The valve of claim 25, further comprising a cam mechanism slidably coupling the actuating element with the flexible element.

28. (Original) The valve of claim 25, further comprising a biasing element to bias the actuating element towards said another position.

29. (Original) The valve of claim 25, further comprising a generally cylindrical housing to encase the support element, the flexible element, the actuating element, and the coupling mechanism, the cylindrical housing having an axis substantially concentric with the axis of fluid flow.

Claims 30-34 (Cancelled).

Please add new claim 35 as follows:

35. (New) A valve comprising:

a support element including a longitudinally extending flow path, at least a portion of the flow path extending along an axis of fluid flow; at least one opening in the support element facing outwardly defining a valve seat;

a flexible tubular element extending around the support element at the valve seat; and

an actuating element having a cam surface engaged with the flexible tubular element and movable axially to radially depress said tubular element by the cam surface

toward the valve seat thereby at least partially restricting fluid flow through the flow path.